

Application No.: 10/780396

Case No.: 58967US002

REMARKS

Reexamination of the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

The art fails to teach hook strength with integrally formed hook elements in with the featurer of claim 1 and 33, namely hook engaging arms extending at an angle to the longitudinal direction of the strand and/or strand but is an oriented thermoplastic resin.

The hook strands of Brumlik '534 are stamped out of sheets of the metal or glassey plastics (ones capable of perment deformation when bent). The strands are not formed of oriented thermoplastic resins. Also, the hook arms in Fig. 4 are facing the same direction as the strand length (0°) which is an inevitable result of how they are formed, by being stamped out of a sheet and twisted.

The "hook" elements of Brumlik '455 do not have hook engaging elements integrally formed with the strands, no oriented thermoplastic strand and does not disclose using their strand in a fibrous web.

The hook strands of Brumlik '637 have hook engaging arms that necessarily extend in the longitudinal direction of the strand. This is a result of their process shown in Fig. 1. No other orientation is possible. Also with respect to claim 33 the knitted form of Fig. 3 & 4 are not fibrous webs, they are fibers)

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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